



# Florida House of Representatives

**Anitere Flores**

Representative, District 114

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## **FLORES' STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION ACT PASSES FLORIDA HOUSE**

**TALLAHASSEE** – Legislation to improve the quality of health care on college campuses, reduce health care costs for students and their parents and bring in revenue for universities was approved by the Florida House today. The Student Health Insurance Protection Act, House Bill (HB) 885, sponsored by Representative Anitere Flores (R-Miami), allows many students who have private insurance to continue using that coverage while away at school.

"First and foremost, this bill is good for students – it ensures that Florida students will have access to the health care they need," said Representative Flores. "At the same time, it's good for Florida's families, as parents will be able to reap the benefits of private insurance for which they already pay. In the long run, our state universities should be able to lower their health service fees as they will be able to recover their costs by billing health insurance companies."

The Student Health Insurance Protection Act requires state universities to bill students' health insurance much like a doctor's office would. Also, under this legislation, university health centers will now be considered an in-network provider with at least five of the 10 largest health insurance companies or HMO plans providing coverage in the state.

The Senate companion to HB 885 is Senate Bill 2256, sponsored by Senator Steve Oelrich (R-Gainesville).

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